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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 016800-448

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
)
Dominique BERNARD et al.) Group Art Unit: 1651
)
Application No.: 09/884,953) Examiner: Jon P. Weber
)
Filed: June 21, 2001) Confirmation No.: 3212
)
For: ISOLATED CATHEPSIN L TYPE)
CYSTEINE PROTEASES AND)
REDUCING INTERCORNEOCYTE)
COHESION/PROMOTING)
DESQUAMATION THEREWITH)

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JUN 30 2003
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AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

☒ A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.

☐ A Terminal Disclaimer and the ☐ \$55.00 (2814) ☐ \$110.00 (1814) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.

☐ Also enclosed is/are _____.

☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.

☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the ☐ \$375.00 (2801) ☐ \$750.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).

☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted ___, on ___, for which continued examination is requested.

☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least ___, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.

☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

☐ No additional claim fee is required.

☒ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADD'L FEE
Total Claims	23	MINUS 21 =	2	× \$18.00 (1202) =	36.00
Independent Claims	8	MINUS 9 =	0	× \$84.00 (1201) =	0
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$280.00 (1203)					
Total Amendment Fee					36.00
If small entity status is claimed, subtract 50% of Total Amendment Fee					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$36.00

☐ A claim fee in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.

☒ Charge \$ 36.00 to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.


The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: June 26, 2003

By:


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AMENDMENT/RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2002, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 25 and 26, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the following claims.

10. (Twice Amended) An isolated, substantially pure polypeptide fragment of a cathepsin L type cysteine protease present in healthy stratum corneum having an apparent molecular weight ranging from 15 to 32 kilodaltons;

wherein the polypeptide fragment has a cathepsin L type cysteine protease activity.

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